

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 109

BY SENATOR FIELDS

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Ready Louisiana Coalition and to designate Tuesday, May 10, 2022, as
Early Education Day at the state capitol.

WHEREAS, the Ready Louisiana Coalition is a bipartisan statewide coalition formed
in 2018 of over one hundred businesses, chambers, advocacy organizations, and early care
and education professionals seeking sufficient investment in quality, affordable early care
and education in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, members of the Ready Louisiana Coalition believe that investing in
quality, affordable early care and education will prepare students for a smart start in life,
enable families to be productive in the workforce, and serve as an economic engine for local
communities; and

WHEREAS, research shows that early experiences affect the development of the
brain architecture, providing the foundation for all future learning, health, and social
behaviors; and

WHEREAS, ninety percent of brain development takes place between birth and age
four; and

WHEREAS, because these early years are when the very foundation of the brain is
built, children who begin school behind generally remain behind; and

WHEREAS, children who receive quality, affordable early care and education
experience long-term improved outcomes in education, health, and social behaviors; and

WHEREAS, in Louisiana, the average family spends \$8,500 a year on child care
which is a considerable part of their household budget; and

WHEREAS, the current lack of quality, affordable early care and education harm all
families and has disproportionately impacted children of color and those in poverty during
this critical age for early brain development; and

WHEREAS, lack of quality, affordable early care and education affect not only the workforce of tomorrow, but also have a substantial impact on the workforce of today, in terms of both worker participation and productivity in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that there can be a thirteen percent return on investment in quality, affordable early care and education; and

WHEREAS, child care issues, lost workforce participation and productivity have resulted in more than a 1.3 billion dollar loss for Louisiana's economy; and

WHEREAS, the over one hundred organizations from across Louisiana that comprise the Ready Louisiana Coalition, are working to provide access to quality affordable early care and education that will improve children's outcomes, strengthen our families and workforce, and build our economy.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Ready Louisiana Coalition and does hereby designate Tuesday, May 10, 2022, as Early Education Day at the state capitol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Ready Louisiana Coalition.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE